

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nicholas F. Borrelli, Thomas P. Seward III,
and Charlene M. Smith
Appl. No. : Not Yet Assigned
Filed : Simultaneously Herewith
For : SILICA WITH LOW COMPACTION UNDER HIGH
ENERGY IRRADIATION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to its initial examination, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph which appears at page 1, lines 4-8, of
the specification with the following:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No.

09/254,114 filed February 25, 1999, which is the U.S. national phase
under 35 USC §371 of International Application No. PCT/US97/15233
filed August 27, 1997, which was published in English under PCT
Article 21(2) on March 5, 1998 as International Publication No.
WO 98/08775. This application claims the benefit under 35 USC
§119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/024995, filed August
29, 1996. The contents of U.S. Applications Nos. 09/254,114 and
60/024,995 and International Application No. PCT/US97/15233 are
incorporated herein by reference in their entireties. The invention
relates to stepper lens from fused silica having low compaction under

10039507-102601

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